

**DECLARATION OF KOZO AKIYOSHI****Under 37 CFR 1.132****Relating to U.S. Patent Application 09/972,925 Filed October 10, 2001**

**I, KOZO AKIYOSHI, of the City of Tokyo, in the Country of Japan, hereby
SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:**

- 1. I am the president of MONOLITH CO., LTD. and as such have knowledge of the facts contained herein.**
- 2. MONOLITH CO., LTD. is the assignee and registered owner of US Patent Application 09/972,925, filed October 10, 2001, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING AND DECODING AN OBJECT (hereinafter "US Application"), and of Japanese Patent Application no. JP 11269445, published under publication 2001092991 A on April 6, 2001, entitled METHOD FOR ENCODING AND DECODING OBJECT AND DEVICE CAPABLE OF UTILIZING SAME, (hereinafter "JP Application").**
- 3. Masaki Hiraga is the named inventor for the US Application.**
- 4. Masaki Hiraga is also named as a co-inventor for the JP Application.**
- 5. Dr. Yoshihisa Shinagawa is named as a co-inventor for the JP Application.**
- 6. Prior to filing the US Application a review was made of the inventorship related to the JP Application and the US Application and it was determined that only the subject matter invented by Mr. Hiraga would be claimed in the US Application.**

7. I believe that Mr. Hiraga is the inventor of the subject matter claimed in the US Application.
8. I believe that Mr. Hiraga is the inventor of the subject matter disclosed in the JP Application and relied on in the rejection of the claims in the US Application in an Office Action mailed March 12, 2004.
9. Mr. Hiraga has more recently left the employment of Monolith Co., Ltd on or about 3/ Decm 2003. On information received from Mr. Takeshi Aoki of the Primeworks Patent Agency Firm, I believe that Mr. Aoki of the Primeworks Patent Agency Firm, which handles the JP Application and co-ordinates the US Application, have contacted Mr. Hiraga with regard to completing a Declaration indicating his being the sole inventor of the subject matter claimed in the US application and Mr. Hiraga has refused to sign such a Declaration.
10. On information received from Mr. Aoki, I believe that Masaki Hiraga's given name may sometimes be rendered as "TADAMOTO" rather than "MASAKI" in a machine translation of the JP Application such as that performed by the Japanese Patent Office. This is due to there being a number of ways to translate Japanese characters into English letters. As such, the JP Application may incorrectly show TADAMOTO HIRAGA as an inventor rather than MASAKI HIRAGA.
11. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of

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Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

DECLARED AND AFFIRMED
BEFORE ME at the City of

Tokyo, this 29th day of July
2004.

9. MATH

Witness SAKAKI MORISHITA

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KOZO AKIYOSHI